

6 June 2002



Dear Mr. [REDACTED],

I can only imagine how difficult this period has been for you with all the publicity about clergy sexual abuse. It must be very painful.

I am happy to respond to your questions to the extent that I am able:

1) Father Thurner's career and status is as follows:

1951-1963	Ordained and served at Most Holy Trinity in St. Louis Park as an associate pastor
1963-1967	Served as an associate pastor at St. Luke's in St. Paul
1967-1970	Served as pastor of St. Michael's in Prior Lake
1970-1983	Served as pastor of St. John the Evangelist in Hopkins
1983-1986	Served as associate pastor at St. Joseph's in West St. Paul
1986	Served as a temporary administrator at St. Edward's in Bloomington
1986-1991	Served as pastor at St. Therese's in St. Paul
1991-present	Retired

2) The Archdiocese is aware of four different instances of inappropriate conduct. One if not two of these cases seemed to involve persons who were 18 years of age or older. According to Father Thurner's testimony, the misconduct began in 1967 or 1968. Father Thurner has admitted to engaging in inappropriate conduct with four different males. I do not see it as appropriate for me to reveal specific details about each of these cases of abuse, just as I would not reveal details to others of your alleged abuse.

3) When the Archdiocese became aware of Father Thurner's misconduct, we took steps to have Father evaluated by competent mental health professionals. Upon their recommendation, we elected to allow Father Thurner to remain in ministry. His status during this time was of a priest of the Archdiocese.

4) I cannot speculate as to Father Thurner's interior capacity to have "repented" when you met him in 1985 to 1990. I know that he now regrets the pain his misconduct may have caused. I have no record that Father Thurner reported you as a victim, but we have not recently asked him to provide an exhaustive list. When he was questioned under oath some years ago, he did not give your name. When I confronted him after our recent meeting, he told me that he had no memory of having abused you. I don't know why this is so.

■, I do not know that my search of our records is going to be very satisfying to you. There may be many things we will never know. I do want you to feel certain of the Archdiocese's concern for you and our willingness to help you in your process of recovery.

Please let me know of what further assistance I can be.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Reverend Kevin M. McDonough
Vicar General and Moderator of the Curia

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